

AF/ 3731
EWW



PATENT
02581-P0423A WWW/MWK

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	Horst Dittrich, <i>et al.</i>
Serial No. 10/002,248	Filing Date: October 26, 2001
Title of Application:	Trocar Sleeve With A Variable Sealing Opening
Confirmation No. 3376	Art Unit: 3731
Examiner	Vy Q. Bui

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response to Final Official Action

This is a response to the Final Office Action mailed 21 December, 2004. Applicant believes that the entry of this Response is proper as it places the application in condition for allowance. The Amendment to claim 15 is minor and places the claim in condition for allowance and/or appeal. Applicant believes that no fee is due in connection with the filing of this Response. However, if any fee is due please charge Deposit Account No. 19-4516.

Mailing Certificate: I hereby certify that this correspondence is today being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as *First Class Mail* in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks; Post Office Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Feb. 22, 2005

Barbara A. North
Barbara A. North